

URGENT
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YANKEE GO HOME!

VIETNAM COURIER

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PAGE 5

A Poem (by a 12 Years Old Girl)
to Infatuate the Pentagon

INFORMATION WEEKLY — E. O. : 46 Tran Hung Dao Street — Hanoi — D. R. V. — Tel. 3841

SOUTH VIETNAM

U.S., South Korean and Puppet Troops
Suffered Heavy Losses in February :

- 2 Battalions and 3 Companies
Wiped Out in Quang Ngai
- 4 U. S. Companies Put Out Of
Action on Kontum Plateaux
- 1,000 G.I.s Killed or Wounded in
Tay Ninh Province

NORTH VIETNAM

- 210 Industrial Enterprises Commis-
sioned in 1965 and 1966
- Village and District People's Coun-
cil Elections to Be Held in Next April
Throughout the D.R.V.
- Up to Feb. 20, U.S. Loss in Air-
craft Totalled

1,698

The Yankees INTENTIONALLY Bomb North Vietnam CIVILIAN POPULATION DISCLOSURE BY AN AMERICAN PILOT SENIOR OFFICER OF THE U.S. NAVY

Letter of Lt. Cdr.
Charles N. Tanner,
588,973 USN
VF 154 — Air Wing 2
U.S.S. Coral Sea
captured in
North Vietnam
on October 9, 1966

See page 4



*Someone said I read the above
story in a newspaper on the radio
and if they knew the US people
would demand a stop to this war
of aggression. All the pilots I knew
would stop this war now, if they
could escape the wrath of the US
government policy.*
*I would like to say my purpose
and motive for writing this letter to
you I have received only the very
best treatment from the people of the
D.R.V. This letter was deeply shared
at the thought of my many American
captive. It is in this sense I wrote this
letter.*
*Respectfully,
Charles N. Tanner*



Charles N. Tanner interviewed
by correspondents of N.D.N.,
Japanese T.V. agency.

Last page of C.N. Tanner's letter

The Yankees INTENTIONALLY Bomb North Vietnam Civilian Population

DISCLOSURE BY AN AMERICAN PILOT

Letter to prisoners' camp commander from Lt. Cdr. CHARLES N. TANNER 58073 U.S.N., VF. 154, Air Wing 2, U.S.S. Coral Sea, pilot of F-4B, born in the State of Tennessee, U.S.A., on 23 October 1932, flying with Lt. ROSS HANDLE TERRY, captured on 9 October 1966 at Phu Ly.

1. I was briefed to strike populated areas with CBU, napalm and fragmentation bombs. The initial brief was given by Cdr Benny Sevilla of Carrier Division Seven staff headed by Rear Adm. De Pous at 13:00, 17 September 1966 in the wardroom of the U.S.S. Coral Sea. Most VF 154 pilots were present for the 15 minute brief including myself. Cdr Sevilla said we were to make repeated strikes to the D.R.V. in an effort to demoralize the people there so that they would apply pressure to the government forcing them to a compromise at the peace talks. He said our tactics would be to strike with our fragmentation bombs encircling the villages first. This will cause the people many casualties and the rest will seek shelter in the village. As they reach shelter drop napalm which will drive them back into the open. Drop CBU's on the people as they run from their shelters. This method would achieve total annihilation.

2. I did as briefed. We struck at midnight to catch everyone in bed so none would escape. The first attack was against

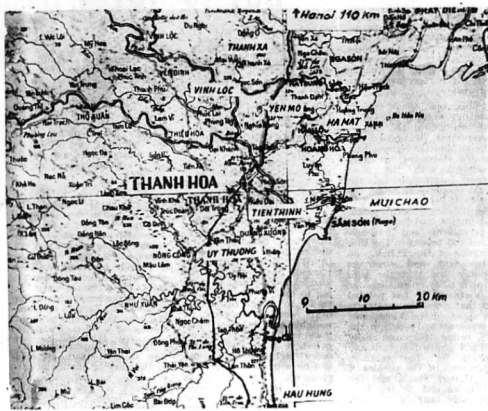
In Phu Ly destroyed by U.S. bombs.

Paragraph of C.N. Tanner's letter concerning Phu Ly

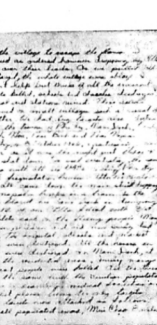


Mai Chao, a small village 8 miles southeast of Thanh Hoa town. A F4B's dived on the village. As I released my bombs the other pilot was doing the same flying a perfect circle with flying steel, around the village. We pulled off lowering the nose for our napalm drops. The napalm exploded lighting the village in a fierce gasoline blaze. As we switched on our CBU's and turned for the last attack I was horrified to see the people running from the village to escape the flames. I continued as ordered however dropping my CBU's right over their heads. As we pulled off the target the

2. THIS is my second cruise to Vietnam in the U.S.S. Coral Sea, so briefs were not new to me. Lt. Edford, U.S.S. Coral Sea air intelligence officer, briefed Lt. Terry, myself and my regular wingmen Lt. Parsons with Lt. Pilkington on our mission to Mai Chao. We would carry 6 500-pound fragmentation bombs, a 1,000-pound napalm bomb and 3 CBU's on each F4B. The brief was at 22:00 on 17 September 1966. The order for the mission came from Carrier Division staff



Map of Thanh Hoa region and targets mentioned by C.N. Tanner. Thanh Hoa with nearly 2 million inhabitants is the most populous province of Vietnam



back in dumping all 12 of our CBU's filled with 300 bomblets each on the fleeing people. Many women, children and old men surely died there. The hospital, schools and market place were destroyed. All the houses in town were destroyed. In Nam Dinh it was the residential areas. Surely many innocent people were killed. All the others were the same with the civilian population, centers of learning, medical facilities and market places being the only targets.

4. THE targets were attacked as follows: 8 small populated areas, Mai Chao 8 miles

southeast of Thanh Hoa town on 17 September 1966, Yen Mo 6 miles southeast of Thanh Hoa town on 18 September 1966, Vinh Loc 7 miles northwest of Thanh Hoa town on 19 September 1966, Ha Mat 7 miles northeast of Thanh Hoa town on 20 September 1966, Thanh Xa 10 miles north of Thanh Hoa town on 21 September 1966, Uy Thuong 9 miles south of Thanh Hoa town on 22 September 1966, Han Hung 18 miles south of Thanh Hoa town, Tien Thinh 4 miles south of Thanh Hoa town, Hau Hung on 23 September and Tien Thinh on 24 September 1966. The towns were Vinh 1 October 1966, Nam Dinh on 2 October 1966, Thai Nguyen on 25 September 1966, Thanh Hoa on 30 September and 4 October 1966, Thai Binh on 3 October 1966 and Phu Ly on 8 October 1966.

5. DURING the briefing I was sick at the thought of dropping such horrible weapons as fragmentation bombs, CBU, and napalm on innocent people. I was afraid to disobey so I went to fly my missions. Some pilots have refused to fly. I remember Lt. Cdr. Ben Casey of VAH-2 and Lt. Clark Kent of VAW-11 who refused to fly their missions on the first day we got to Vietnam. They were court-martialed on the

(Continued page 7)

SECOND INVESTIGATION COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL :

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF NORTH VIETNAM ARE ANOTHER PRIME TARGET OF ATTACKS

BEFORE leaving the D.R.V. after 24 days of work, the Second Investigation Commission of the International War Crimes Tribunal issued a communiqué.

The first part of the communiqué recalls the conclusions of the first investigation commission on U.S. criminal air raids on the D.R.V.:

— American aircraft struck at populous quarters

— The bombed areas were far from any military targets

— U.S. targets were undertakings of civilian character which could not be mistaken

— Apart from conventional heavy bombs, U.S. aircraft dropped CBU, bombs whose effect was to cause injuries and to kill civilians.

These systematic bombings of densely populated areas have shown that the U.S. was waging a war of mass destruction in North Vietnam (See Vietnam Courier N°97)

These conclusions have been corroborated by the investigations made by the second Commission at Quang Ninh and Haiphong. The second part of the communiqué reads as follows:

JOHNSON LIES WHEN HE SEEMS FIT

L.B. Johnson: We have no desire to devastate that which the people of North Vietnam have built with toil and sacrifice.

Baltimore speech, Apr. 7, 1965

American targets in the North are concrete and steel, and not human life.

April 17, 1965

The State Department:

U.S. aircraft have taken care "to avoid populated areas and civilian targets" and to limit the bombing to "military-related targets."

McCloskey, State Dept. spokesman

Dec. 14, 1966

U.S. Command in Saigon:

Our policy is to hit strictly military targets.

Dec. 14, 1966

"The present gap of confidence is the beginning of an extremely new phenomenon in the United States; that of a systematic doubt of a people about their leaders who many a time have been caught in the act of lying."

Jacques Almaric

Le Monde

Jan. 14, 1967

Linus Pauling, American scientist, twice Nobel prize winner:

Johnson has become a true dictator and he lies when he seems fit.

Quoted by Le Nouvel Observateur.



A POEM TO INFATUATE THE PENTAGON

ON February 14, 1967, Reuter reported from Philadelphia: "United States Defense Department has cancelled its subscriptions for 13,000 copies of a church magazine because of a poem in it by a girl of 12 years old." The poem, by BARBARA BEIDLER of Vero Beach, Florida, described the effects of napalm on a North Vietnamese village, and was termed by the Defense Department an "embarrassing item concerning Vietnam". The magazine mentioned was Venture, published by the Presbyterian church. Here are some excerpts from the poem entitled

After-Thoughts on Napalm Drop on Jungle Villages Near Haiphong

THERE! There was the flash—silver and gold,
Silver and gold,
Silver birds flying,
Golden water raining,
The rice ponds blazed with new water.
The jungle burst into gold and sent up little birds of fire.
Little animals with fur aflame.
Then the children flamed,
Running—their clothes flying like fiery kites.
Screaming—their screams
Dying as their faces seared.
The women's baskets burned on their heads...
The men's boats glazed on the rice waters...
Listen, Americans,
Listen clear and long, The children are screaming
In the jungles of Haiphong.

IN the February 18 issue of the Hanoi daily NHAN DAN, poet Huy Can wrote a poem dedicated to Barbara Beidler, the translation of which is given below:

Truth Blazes Even in Little Children's Hearts

LITTLE Barbara,
Across the ocean
Your skin a different colour,
But you clearly hear
The screams
Of children near Haiphong,
Burnt to death by U.S. bombs,
Scraps of their clothing flying in the sky.
You're just twelve years old,
But you speak up the conscience
Of mankind shocked
By each rain of bombs.
America, America,
Do you hear the screams
Of thousands of children
Charred by the golden fire?
Golden fire of napalm,
Golden fire of dollars,
Like a putrefying cancer
That burns and eats away both flesh and blood,
Like the pus of a gangrene
That corrupts the bones and marrow,
Sticks to the body of America,
Creeping into her blood and soul,
America, do you feel
Your flesh and skin
And your conscience burnt
To death by American bombs?
Little Barbara,
Your poem kindles a fire
That scorches ghosts and devils,
That corrupts the bones and marrow,
They ban your poem,
But how can they ban
The truth that blazes
Even in little children's hearts!

THE U.S. PUPPET TROOPS SUFFERED REPEATED DEFEATS

SINCE the end of October 1966 six large-scale operations so much advertised by the American brass have taken place in South Vietnam:

— Operation *Attleboro* (from end October to 29 November) in the east-northeast and north-northeast of Tay Ninh province, 90 km north-northwest of Saigon.

— Operation *Pak Rivera IV* (early November 1966) on the Western High Plateaux, near the Cambodian border, 400 km north-northwest of Saigon.

— Operation *Thayer II* (October to December 1966) in the central part of Central Vietnam, north of Binh Dinh province, 470 km northwest of Saigon.

— Operation *Deckhouse V* (early January 1967) in the Mekong river delta, 100 km south of Saigon.

— Operation *Cedar Falls* (early January 1967) in Ben Tre district, 100 km south of Saigon.

— Operation *Gadsden* (early February 1967) north of Tay Ninh province, 100 km northwest of Saigon.

Three of these operations (*Attleboro*, *Cedar Falls*, *Gadsden*) aimed at clearing the Saigon-Gia Dinh region threatened by the ever-growing guerrilla movement, and defending the enemy military bases around these cities.

After suffering over 3,000 casualties in Operation *Attleboro*, the cruel Yankees launched Operation *Cedar Falls* to "crack open 400 towns from the map", but lost 2,663 men, had 103 tanks and armoured cars destroyed and 15 aircraft downed. In Operation *Gadsden* which followed, they suffered 1,000 casualties and had 6 companies completely wiped out and 69 armoured cars destroyed.

To defeat the barbarity and to cover up the U.S. imperialists' ballyhooed that they had razed Viet Cong bases, that "the new tactics will really pay off" and that "security" was vouchsafed for their big bases in the Saigon-Gia Dinh region. But what was happening in fact?

On December 2, 1966, the L.A.F. hammered at Tan Son Nhut airbase, destroying 200 aircraft of various kinds, blowing up 300 tons of bombs and wiping out over 400 Yankee and puppet troops.

In the Long Tau channel, between August 23, 1966 and February 15, 1967, 27 American vessels were sunk or damaged. On Feb. 15, 1967, three, in the area of the mouth of the L.A.F., 2 vessels were sent to the bottom and another damaged.

The big logistic base of Long Binh, barely 20 km southwest of Saigon was subjected to 4 attacks between Oct. 28, 1966 and Feb. 4, 1967: 48 stores containing 1,000,000 cannon shells and rockets and 4,575 cases of explosives were blown up, 43 motorized vehicles destroyed and 500 Yankees killed or wounded.

It was obvious that the three above-mentioned operations were unable to prevent the L.A.F. from attacking the American bases around Saigon.

It is likewise on the Western High Plateaux: Operation *Pak Rivera IV* suffered a big defeat. U.S. and puppet infantry and artillery companies were put out of action along the Thay River.

Following that operation, on Jan. 6, 1967 night, Pleiku airfield was stormed: 92 aircraft were destroyed, 280 Yankees (most of them airmen and technicians) wiped out. On Feb. 15 and 16, two companies of U.S. Infantry Division 4 were virtually annihilated southwest of Kontum town.

Operation *Thayer II* conducted in the coastal area northeast of Saigon also failed woefully. On Dec. 17 and 20 alone, 3 battalions and 2 companies of U.S. First Air Cavalry Division were entirely wiped out (battalion of Col. Giang and 2 companies of Capt. Brown and 3 armoured cars destroyed in Hoai Nhon district).

American combat troops were also bogged down in the quicksand of the Mekong River delta. In Operation *Deckhouse V* in Thanh Phu district, Ben Tre province, 1,300 GIs and puppet troops were put out of action from Jan. 6 to 16. In the nearby district of Binh Dai, the L.A.F. wiped out a battalion of puppet regulars, overran 10 posts and liberated two villages and 9,000 inhabitants. On the 17th, the U.S. military activities in Ben Tre province, the L.A.F. in the delta of Nam Bo put out of action puppet troops: one in My Tho province on Jan. 10, the second in Cholon province on Jan. 15 and the third in Tra Vinh province on Jan. 19, 1967.

Especially in Long An province close to the southern gate of Saigon in which the "pacification by priority sectors" was carried out over the last few years, a pilot province for the Yankees to set up "enclaves" in the Mekong river delta, 2 enemy battalions and 14 companies were mown down in the first 3 months of the dry season.

In Rach Kien, Can Duoc district, the L.A.F. put out of action 500 GIs in the first week following their advance to the region on Dec. 21, 1966 (100 were wiped out in the first week).

Beside the above-mentioned major operations, the Yankees and puppet troops were no more lucky: In the two operations recently launched by American and Pak Jung Hi troops near Chu Lai base in Quang Ngai on Dec. 30 and 31, 1966, 475 American casualties and 1,000 puppet troops were wiped out 13 km north of the same town.

At the beginning of the dry season (1966-67), military activities have been stepped up: the enemy not only were unable to clear urban centres and defend their bases, but have suffered great casualties.

IN THE FIRST 19 DAYS OF FEBRUARY 1967

U.S., SOUTH KOREAN AND PUPPET TROOPS SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES

- 2 ENEMY BATTALIONS AND 3 COMPANIES VIRTUALLY WIPE OUT IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE
- 3 U.S. COMPANIES PUT OUT OF ACTION AND ANOTHER BADLY MAULED IN KONTUM PROVINCE
- 1,000 G.I.s KILLED OR WOUNDED IN TAY NINH

In the first 19 days of February, the fighting took place

— in the area between Quang Ngai and Hue,

— on the Western High Plateaux,

— around Saigon, more particularly in Tay Ninh.

IN THE COASTAL AREA BETWEEN QUANG NGAI AND HUE

DESPITE the efforts of the enemy to "pacify" the areas around their bases, the L.A.F. of Quang Ngai province won big victories in the:

— Feb. 2 ambush in which a company of Pak Jung Hi troops was wiped out 20 km north of Quang Ngai town,

— Feb. 3 night attack against a U.S. Marine company, 38 km south southeast of the same town,

— Feb. 6 night assault on a post 27 km south-southeast of the town annihilating a company of puppet Brigade 6,

— Feb. 15 ambush against South Korean Marine Division Blue Dragon, virtually wiping out 1 battalion 10 km north of the town, causing 420 enemy casualties,

Quang Ngai Inhabitants Protest Against G.I.s and South Korean Troops' Crimes

AS has been reported, the U.S. aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries troops committed many barbarous massacres in Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai provinces and in the vicinity of their bases, and forced at gunpoint the people to leave their villages for disguised barracks camps dubbed "new life hamlets".

According to L.P.A., people in several districts in Quang Ngai on January 21 marched on various district and provincial capitals to protest against recent criminal acts.

Over 100 people in Binh Son north of Quang Ngai, swarmed into the provincial capital, the U.S. marine base of Chu Lai and other posts to condemn the U.S. and puppet troops and the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries for committing so many bloody crimes. Over 4,000 others

of a puppet Marine battalion 8 km north of the site of a battle fought 4 days before.

Meanwhile, the L.A.F. in Quang Nam province hammered at a U.S. battalion 4 km southeast of Tam Ky town and at many enemy positions in the town (Feb. 5 night), causing 345 casualties among the members of M.A.C., M.A.A.G. and U.S.O.M., setting afire 4 M-13 armoured cars and destroying 5 105-mm cannons.

On Feb. 6 night, the L.A.F. stormed Nam Gio shooting-gallery southwest of Hue city, killing and wounding 100 enemy troops of puppet Division 1, razed 100 of the ground and demolishing 10 blockhouses and posts and destroying 30 armoured cars and military trucks.

ON THE WESTERN HIGH PLATEAUX

On Feb. 15, the L.A.F. attacked a company of American infantrymen west of Sa Tay river and another east of the same river. Intersecting the enemy rescuing party, they wiped out an American company and badly mauled another. They shot down 4 helicopters the same day and 2 others the following days.

8,000 people lined up the road section from Chao O to Nuoc Man and displayed anti-U.S. slogans, blocking all traffic, even stopping American cars. Nearly 250 persons herded into concentration camps left for their villages on this occasion.

In Duc Phou, Quang Ngai province, 22,000 people in many columns carried the wounded victims of terrorist raids to the district and provincial capitals for protest action. The enemy had to take the wounded to the hospital for treatment and promised to meet the people's demands. Slogans against the

AROUND SAIGON

In the first 13 days of February, the L.A.F. harassed the enemy northwest of Tay Ninh province, putting out of action 1,000 G.I.s, wiping out a South Korean battalion, destroying 14 tanks and M-13 armoured cars. On Feb. 3, 5 and 6, they annihilated 6 American companies, destroyed or damaged 38 tanks and armoured carriers.

In the attacks launched on Feb. 2 in the Long Tau channel, the L.A.F. sank two U.S. vessels and damaged two others despite a vigilant enemy patrol.

Before these attacks, on Feb. 3 the L.A.F. ambushed a military train 60 km east-northeast of Saigon, inflicting 100 casualties on the American troops.

At 2 hours on Feb. 18, the L.A.F. assaulted a series of enemy positions in an area 10 km near Ben Tre town including the airfield and the military sub-sector: 600 puppet troops were killed, wounded, including Ranger Battalion 41 completely wiped out. 400 puppet troops put out of action since the beginning of the 1966-67 dry season).

U.S. aggressors and Pak Jung Hi mercenaries were cheered aloud.

In Son Tinh, people erected altars in memory of the victims. Thousands went to market places, the main thoroughfares and the provincial capital to denounce the enemy's crimes. Many soldiers of the puppet army sided with the people in their struggle.

All told, on Jan. 20, over 40,000 people in the above districts took part in meetings and demonstrations to denounce the U.S. and Pak Jung Hi troops' crimes.

The struggle of the people in Quang Ngai has shown that the aggressors' terrorist acts cannot subdue the South Vietnamese people. Instead, they only exasperate their hatred and incite them to more resolute action against the perfidious schemes of the enemy.